

Amendments to the Specification:

Please add the following text before the first paragraph of the specification:

RELATED APPLICATION DATA

This application is the United States National Stage Application of International Application No. PCT/CH02/00584, filed October 29, 2002.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

Please amend the first paragraph beginning on page 1, line 7, as follows:

The present invention concerns a device for the treatment of fractures fractions of the femur, and, more particularly, to a device including an intramedullary pin, a longitudinal bone fixation element configured to engage the femoral head, a sliding sleeve, and a locking mechanism configured to selectively lock rotation of the bone fixation element relative to both the sleeve and the pin when in a first position and permit free rotation of the bone fixation element relative to both the sleeve and the pin when in a second position according to the preamble of patent claim 1 as well as an intramedullary pin to be used in such a device according to the preamble of claim 18.

Please add the following text before the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 11:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Please add the following text before the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 18:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 18, as follows:

The invention achieves the objective set by a device having an intramedullary pin, a longitudinal bone fixation element configured to engage the femoral head, a sliding sleeve, and a locking mechanism configured to selectively lock rotation of the bone fixation element relative to both the sleeve and the pin when in a first position and permit free rotation of the bone fixation element relative to both the sleeve and the pin when in a second position the features of claim 1, as well as by an intramedullary pin having the features of claim 18.

Please add the following text before the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 5:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 30, as follows:

FIG. 8--a longitudinal section through a modified sliding sleeve with a helical blade screw pre-assembled therein,

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 33, as follows:

FIG. 9--a longitudinal section through a modification of the sliding sleeve according to FIG. 8 with a helical blade screw pre-assembled therein,

Please add the following text before the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 1:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 1, as follows:

In FIGS. 1 to 2 as well as 5 to 7 a device for the treatment of femoral fractures is illustrated, that comprises an intramedullary pin 1, a sliding sleeve 10, a longitudinal bone fixing element 20 in the form of a helical blade screw and a locking means 30 in the form of a fixing screw.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 16, as follows:

The longitudinal bone fixing element 20 in the form of a helical blade screw has a longitudinal axis 21, a head portion 22 with fixing means 23 in the form of a multi-start thread with a relatively coarse pitch, that can engage the femoral head during use, as well as a shaft 24 that can be coaxially introduced into the sliding sleeve 10.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 9, as follows:

As FIG. 7 illustrates, the fixing means 23 of the longitudinal bone fixing element 20 according to FIG. 5 are constructed as a four-start helical blade screw, wherein the thread has a pitch of approx. 120 mm.